

**REMARKS**

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of subject application. Claims 31-35 and 47-53 were previously canceled as being directed to non-elected claims following a restriction requirement. Claims 7-8, 25-26, 38-39, 54-61, 66-70, and 72-82 are canceled without prejudice in order to place the claims indicated as allowable in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-6, 9-24, 27-30, 36-37, 40-46, 62-65, and 71 are pending.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the detailed analysis presented in this Office Action.

**Allowable Subject Matter**

Claims 8-9, 11-13, 20-21, 26-27, 39-40, 42-44, and 62-65 are objected to, but would be allowed if rewritten in independent form. Applicant thanks the Examiner for allowing these claims.

Claim 1 is amended to incorporate all limitations of **allowable claim 8** (now canceled as a result of this incorporation). Thus, claim 1 is essentially rewritten as the independent form of claim 8 and is in condition for allowance. Dependent claims 2-6, 10, and 14-16 are also in condition for allowance by virtue of their dependency on allowable claim 1.

**Allowable claims 9, 11-13, and 20** are rewritten in independent form and in condition for allowance. **Allowable claim 21** remains dependent on claim 20.

Claim 17 is amended to incorporate all limitations of **allowable claim 26** (now canceled as a result of this incorporation). Thus, claim 17 is essentially rewritten as the independent form of claim 26 and is in condition for allowance.

1 Dependent claims 18-19, 22-24, and 28-30 are also in condition for allowance by  
2 virtue of their dependency on allowable claim 17.

3 Allowable claim 27 is rewritten in independent form and in condition for  
4 allowance.

5 Claim 36 is amended to incorporate all limitations of allowable claim 39  
6 (now canceled as a result of this incorporation). Thus, claim 36 is essentially  
7 rewritten as the independent form of claim 39 and is in condition for allowance.  
8 Dependent claims 37, 41, 45, and 46 are also in condition for allowance by virtue  
9 of their dependency on allowable claim 36.

10 Allowable claims 40, 42-44, and 62-65 are rewritten in independent form  
11 and in condition for allowance.

12 Accordingly, all claims indicated as allowable are rewritten to be placed in  
13 condition for allowance and issuance.

14  
15 **Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102**

16 Claims 1-7, 10, 14-19, 22-25, 28-30, 36-38, 41, 54-61, and 66-82 stand  
17 rejected. Certain claims are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102, while other claims are  
18 rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

19 With the exception of claim 71, the rejected claims are either canceled, or  
20 amended to incorporate allowable claims, or now depend from allowable claims.  
21 Accordingly, the rejections are rendered moot.

22 Claim 71 is rewritten in independent form. Claim 71 contains limitations  
23 similar to those in allowable claim 20. Applicant believes that claim 71 is also in  
24 condition for allowance.  
25

**Conclusion**

Claims 1-6, 9-24, 27-30, 36-37, 40-46, 62-65, and 71 are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests prompt allowance of the subject application. If any issue remains unresolved that would prevent allowance of this case, **the Examiner is requested to urgently contact the undersigned attorney to resolve the issue.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: Nov. 9, 2004By: 

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